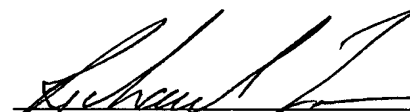


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PATENT 11/19/00

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No.: PCT/EP97/06442 filed ) Application, Washington,  
November 18, 1997 ) D.C. 20231  
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Group Art Unit: To be )  
assigned )  
Examiner: To be assigned )

  
Richard Zimmermann

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Box Patent Application  
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Please amend this application as follows.

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Page 1, immediately following the title, please  
insert the following:

--This is a continuation of International  
Application No. PCT/EP97/06442 filed November 18, 1997,  
the entire disclosure of which is incorporated be  
reference.--

AI